



As the cost of living rises, we need to find alternative means of saving money in every part of our lives. When making these changes, we should also consider the impact we have on the environment. When you begin to use environmentally-friendly products and make more sustainable lifestyle changes you will be contributing to a brighter and healthier future for us all.

## Small changes, big savings

By introducing a few changes into our daily lives, we can easily help save our environment and in the process save a few rand by simply doing the following:

- Make use of public transport such as the MiCiTi rapid bus transport system or the newly launched Travel SMART Programme which encourages Capetonians to use public transport. Visit: <http://www.capetowngreenmap.co.za/blog/city-launches-travel-smart-programme-and-encourages-sustainable-transport-options> to see what alternative means of travel are available to you.
- Energy-saving light bulbs are more expensive than regular light bulbs; however, energy-saving bulbs are much more cost effective: they last longer than conventional bulbs and they will significantly reduce your daily use of electricity.

## Fun craft ideas that will save you money:

- **Bottle renewal**  
Transform everyday bottles into elegant vases by coating their interiors with glass enamel.
- **Button clock**  
Instead of tossing away extra buttons from old garments, showcase them on clocks, drawers, cards, totes and table linens.
- **Eco-friendly gift wrap**  
Why not make gift wrap that's both gorgeous and green by using left over material?

These tips came from the Martha Stewart website. For more ideas, please visit [www.marthastewart.com](http://www.marthastewart.com). Look for "earth-friendly crafts" at Martha Stewart Crafts.



## What are you doing to save the planet?

Please share your tips for green and carbon-neutral living with us. If you or your family are part of an environmentally-friendly project, please let us know. We would love to hear from you. Please e-mail your tips, projects and comments to [Better.Together@pgwc.gov.za](mailto:Better.Together@pgwc.gov.za) or call us on **021 483 3806**.